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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 177  
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION To congratulate Miss Jody Barker of Kingsport for ably representing Tennessee in the nationwide, Crayola-sponsored Youth Arts Day celebratory contest, called "Crayola Color the States Contest".

WHEREAS, Children who grow up participating in the Arts demonstrate higher than normal self-confidence, and attain higher achievement levels in school, and a greater percentage of such children pursue post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, One such student who participates in the Arts, Miss Jody Barker of Kingsport, served ably as Tennessee's representative in the nationwide, Crayola-sponsored Youth Arts Day contest in Washington D.C. on March 20, 2001; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of proud parents, Joe and Sandy Barker of Kingsport, Jody won Tennessee's nomination through the stellar artwork she submitted to the "Crayola Color the States" contest; and

WHEREAS, The students from Marie Reed Learning Center and Thompson Elementary School, along with the maker of Crayola products and Americans for the Arts (AFTA), all joined

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together on March 20<sup>th</sup> of this year on Washington D.C.'s Capitol Hill to celebrate Youth Arts Day; and

WHEREAS, The inaugural event, which recognized the creativity of children from each of the fifty states, was part of an initiative Crayola undertook with AFTA during Youth Arts Month to increase parents' and educators' understanding of the importance of Art to a child's development; and

WHEREAS, Realizing the power of creativity in children's lives and encouraging parents and educators to make Art a daily part of their children's activities, Congressional members and Hollywood actors joined the participating fourth- and fifth-graders in fitting together a giant Youth Arts Across America jigsaw puzzle featuring children's artwork of the sites, landmarks, and people that make our country colorful and brightly unique; Jody's artwork picturing Tennessee's treasures was one of those puzzle pieces, as artwork representing each state was selected from nearly 5,000 illustrations submitted by children all across the nation; and

WHEREAS, The members of this legislative body find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to specially recognize Miss Jody Barker for her winning artwork in the "Crayola Color the States" contest; this exceptional young lady ably represented Tennessee with her illustration, which comprised an important part of Youth Arts Day; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Miss Jody Barker on her recent achievement of representing Tennessee with distinction in the "Crayola Color the States" contest as part of the celebration of Youth Arts Day in Washington D.C.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.